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PERU AND CHILI.

A TREATY OF PEACE SIGNED.

ITS CONDITIONS—A REVIEW OF THE CAUSES AND INCIDENTS OF THE WAR—THE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS.

A dispatch from Valparaiso, Chili, states that a treaty of peace between Peru and Chili has been signed. Peru cedes Tacna and Acrea for ten years. Then the question to which country these provinces shall belong will be settled. An account of the causes and of the leading incidents of the war is given here, with, together with a sketch of the diplomatic negotiations relative to a treaty of peace.

THE TERMS OF THE TREATY.

BY THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.
VALPARAISO, May 15.—A treaty of peace between Chili and Peru has been signed by General Novoa and General Céspedes and is said to have been confirmed. Peru cedes Tacna and Acrea for ten years. At the end of that term a plebiscite is to be taken to determine to which country those provinces shall belong. The country acquiring them will pay indemnity.

THE CAUSES OF THE WAR.

The war between Chili and Peru originated in a dispute between the former country and Bolivia. From the time that the Spanish yoke was thrown off in 1821 until about 1842 Chili remained in peaceful possession of the coast on the Pacific Ocean as far north as 23° south latitude. In the latter year guano discoveries having been made between latitude 23 and 25, Bolivia set up a claim to that territory. The dispute continued until 1856 when a treaty was made having for its purpose the settlement of the dispute. In substance the treaty provided that the 23d degree of latitude should be the line of division, but that all guano deposits within the disputed territory and all duties which might be derived from the exportation of minerals should be divided between the two countries. This treaty, however, did not remove the differences, and in August, 1871, a new treaty was made. Subsequently valuable nitrate deposits were found in a part of the disputed territory which had been set apart to Bolivia by the treaty, and companies were formed to develop the nitrate industry. One of these companies, which became almost a monopoly, was composed mostly of citizens of Chili. This company built a railroad and developed the country by making investments amounting to several millions of dollars.

In February, 1878, the Bolivian Congress enacted a law imposing a tax on all exportation of nitrate. Against this legislation the Government of Chili promptly protested on the ground that it was indirect conflict with the guarantees of the treaty of 1871. After some delay, Bolivia attempted to execute the law, however, despite a threat by Chili that such action would be regarded as an abrogation of the treaty, and he issued a decree by which the tax, some time ago, he convened in the North. The latest advice from the South, prior to the receipt of the despatch announcing the signing of a treaty, stated that in Lima, Ilescas was unanimously supported, and that he was extending his powers to the extent of sending a special commission to sign a treaty of peace in order to accomplish the result which Peruvians wished—the withdrawal of Chilean troops from the Northern Department, including Lima and Callao.

their successes with further victories, leaving Peru in a miserable condition. Tarapaca was conquered, and the allied army under General Bueda was destroyed by the invading force. Then followed a period of inactivity, after which Chili renewed the war with undiminished energy. A second foothold upon Peruvian soil was obtained, and after a long march the Chilianos, 10,000 in number, scattered Moneda's 14,000 allies and stormed the fortifications around Tacna and Acrea. This series of victories cut Bolivia off from the Pacific and virtually shut Peru from the world. Callao was at the mercy of the Chilian fleet, and Lima was threatened. Iquique was by that time in the hands of the Chilians. The Peruvian fleet was destroyed and the struggle of Peru against the victorious Chilian army which then was in possession of the richest province of the country, was well nigh hopeless.

The war virtually ended with the capture of Lima on January 17, 1881. The advance on Lima was planned by the Chilians in 1880. Having secured command of the sea and acquired control of the Southern coast, they blockaded Callao—the port of Lima—and finally landed troops at Pisces and Curayaco. The Chilians at this time numbered about 30,000 men; the Peruvians about 40,000. The decisive battle was fought near Chorillos, nine miles south of Lima. The Peruvians were defeated and driven from their position with heavy loss. Perera, the President of Peru, escaped from the battlefield and was joined by his followers in Callao. After a period of fierce negotiation, Chilean assumed the Provisional Presidency, and on July 10 convened a Congress in the vicinity of Lima. This body, under the protection of a Chilian garrison, elected him President for a year. Pineda Lynch, in command of the Chilean forces, namely the Chilian and Calderon, under the pretext that the Provisional Government was ruining trade by unclaimed issues of paper money, some of which were fraudulent. Subsequently Calderon and his Foreign Minister were arrested and sent to Santiago. Pineda's forces were hostile to the movement. Admiral Lynch, in command of the Chilean forces, namely the Chilian and Calderon, under the

Pero and Bolivia. Three weeks later he wrote Secretary Evans that the allies showed a disposition to abandon negotiations.

On the 23d a conference of the plenipotentiaries of Chili, Bolivia and Peru together with the United States Minister to those countries was held on board a United States man-of-war in the Bay of Arica. This conference was productive of no better understanding between the belligerents. Chili demanded the cession of all the Peruvian and Bolivian territory south of the Valley of Cameros and as far as the Valley of Chacarilla and west also of a line which prolonged from that point, would strike the Argentine frontier, passing through the centre of Lake Ascan. Chili also demanded \$20,000,000 indemnity, \$4,000,000 in cash, the return of property taken from Chilean citizens in Peru and Bolivia, the return of a captured transport; the abrogation of the secret treaty between Bolivia and Peru, and the retention by Chili, with military forces, of the Territory of Moquegua, Tacna and Acrea until the foregoing obligations had been complied with.

Mr. Osborn, United States Minister to Chili, had in several instances to the State Department in the beginning of 1880 expressed the conviction that if Chili should succeed in gaining military possession of the rich nitre and guano deposits of Tarapaca she could never be prevailed upon to surrender to him. In a letter dated March 5, 1881, Mr. Osborn returned to this subject and said that the management of the nitre and guano interests was presenting some difficult questions to the Chilean Government. In February, 1881, the Bolivian Minister at Washington addressed Secretary Evans on the same subject and proposed the organization of a company in the United States for the purpose of working the guano and nitro deposits of Peru and Bolivia under the approval of the Governments of Chili, Peru and Bolivia. For the last three years the nitre and guano deposits of Peru and Bolivia have had a prominent place in the diplomatic correspondence, especially as affecting the ability of Peru and Bolivia to pay the war indemnity demanded by Chili as a condition of peace.

On February 19, 1881, Mr. Evans wrote instructing Mr. Osborn to urge upon Chili the desire of the United States to bring about peace, and saying that since the Chilians have captured Lima and Callao it was believed that Peru would accept the mediation of the United States upon any reasonable terms. On April 1, 1881, Mr. Osborn informed Mr. Blaine that Chili had rejected the mediation tendered by Great Britain, France and Italy, and that those Powers had expressed neither dissatisfaction nor disappointment. On June 26 Mr. Christiane, under instructions from Secretary Blaine, formally recognized the Calderon Government.

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THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES AS SET FORTH BY MR. BLAINE.

In July Mr. Christiane was recalled and General Harbord took his place. In his instructions to General Harbord, dated June 15, 1881, Secretary Blaine set forth very clearly the policy of the United States relative to the South American war, according to the war indemnity demanded by the Chilean Government he said that the United States could not refuse to recognize the rights which that Government had acquired by the success of the war and it might be that a cession of territory would be a necessary price to be paid for peace. 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